jurisdiction of the State/UT Administrations. Central Government has not reduced the normal allocations of rice and wheat to the States/UTs.

Availability and distribution of Kerosene

3051. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints of non-availability of kerosene from Public Distribution System are on increase;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the control on kerosene distribution is full of loopholes and the food distribution officers or the District supply officers are not effectively maintaining the control; and

(c) whether Government will impose cross checks on distribution of kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Central Government makes bulk allocation of superior kerosene oil (SKO) to the States/UTs. Retail distribution of kerosene through Public Distribution System is a matter under the administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments/UT Administrations as the operational responsibility for implementation of Public Distribution System (PDS) is that of the State Governments and UT Administrations. The States/Union Territories undertake raids and surprise checks as part of their enforcement functions. The States/UTs have been advised to keepstrict watch over supply of essential commodities including kerosene and price situation and take remedial action under various Acts like Essential Commodities Act etc. to curb blackmarketing, hoarding and diversion of PDS commodities including kerosene so that the common man does not suffer. Central Government does not maintain information relating to complaints at Fair Price Shops level. While there have been demands for increased allocations of SKO from many States/UTs, the Central Government has not received complaints about non availability of SKO from any State Government/UT Administration. Central Government has no proposal to set up any separate enforcement machinery for cross checks on distribution of SKO.

Distribution of coarse cloth through PDS

3052. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 93 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government plan to introduce distribution of coarse cloth or khadi through the Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Government has no proposal to procure and allocate coarse cloth and khadi to State Governments/UT Administrations for the Public Distribution System.

Consumer awareness programme organised by Bus

3053. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any consumer welfare awareness programme was organised at New Delhi by the Bureau of Indian Standards on the occasion of World Consumer Day in recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some suggestion on quality consciousness in Indian Industry were made in the programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to take some measures to implement some of these suggestions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Consumer Awareness Programme was organised by the Bureau of Indian Standards on the theme 'Consumer Welfare through IS/ISO 9000 Standards on Quality Systems' on 15 March 1995 to celebrate the World Consumer Day. The programme was organised with the objective of apprising the participants which included consumer activists, representatives of consumer organizations as well as officials of the services and utilities sectors of IS/ISO 9000 standards, their benefits to consumers and how their implementation in the services and utilities sectors would promote consumer welfare.

(c) and (d) No specific suggestion was made to promote quality consciousness in the Indian Industry in the main Awareness Programme but implementation of Quality system aspects as per ISO: 9000 series of standards in the service sectors was stressed in the technical session of the Awareness Programme.

(e) and (f) Question does not arise.

Sale of edible oil by NDDB

3054. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board has a proposal to sell imported edible oil to control rising prices;

(b) if so, how much quantum of imported oil, Government received as a gift or imported;

(c) the countries from which the oil has been received;

(d) whether the production of edible oils is not sufficient to meet its demand in the country; and

(e) if so, the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is selling imported edible oil in the open market.

(b) and (c) NDDB has reported that since August, 1994 they have commercially imported about 1.34 lakh tonnes of edible oil from Argentina, Malaysia and Indonesia. In addition, about 9.19 lakh tonnes of Crude Rapeseed Oil has been received as a gift from Canada for NDDBs' Vegetable Oil Project. Imoprts of edible oils, including the quantity received as gift, by the NDDB are on their own Account. They do not import on Government Account.

Details of edible oils imported on Government Account by the State Trading Corporation from Malaysia/ Indonesia for the Public Distribution System during the last three years is indicated below:—

Financial Year	Quantity (in MTs)
1992-93	76,870*
1993-94	78 965*
1994-95	1,07 013

*Includes 47,000 MT and 37,000 MT of Soyabean Oil received under USAID as gift during the years 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.